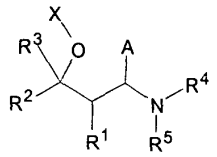
WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. (Amended) A 3-Amino-3-arylpropan-1-ol compound corresponding to formula I



I

wherein

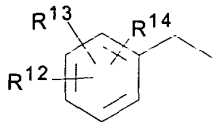
R^1 and R^2 each independently denote C_{1-6}-alkyl, or R^1 and R^2 together form a $(CH_2)_{2-6}$ [ring] chain, which can also be benzo-fused or phenyl-substituted;

R^3 denotes H or methyl;

R^4 and R^5 each independently denote C_{1-6}-alkyl, C_{3-6}-cycloalkyl, phenyl, benzyl or phenethyl, or R^4 and R^5 together form a $(CH_2)_{3-6}$ or $CH_2CH_2OCH_2CH_2$ [ring] chain;

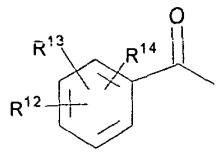
A denotes a substituted or unsubstituted aryl radical, which optionally contains heteroatoms in the ring system;

X denotes a substituted benzyl group corresponding to formula XI



XI

or a substituted benzoyl group corresponding to formula XII



XII

wherein

R^{12} to R^{14} each independently denote H, F, Cl, Br, CHF_2, CF_3, [OR^{11}, SR^{11}] $\underline{OR^{15}}$, $\underline{SR^{15}}$, OCF_3, SO_2CH_3, SO_2CF_3, C_{1-6}-alkyl, phenyl, CN, [$COOR^{11}$] $\underline{COOR^{15}}$ or NO_2, where

[R^{11}] $\underline{R^{15}}$ denotes H, C_{1-6}-alkyl, phenyl, benzyl or phenethyl;

and diastereomers or enantiomers thereof,

or a salt thereof with a physiologically acceptable acid,

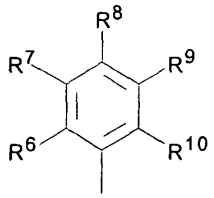
with the proviso that α-dimethylamino-α-(cis-2-benzyloxycyclohexyl)-m-cresol, its diastereomers, enantiomers and salts are excluded.

2. (Amended) A compound according to claim 1, wherein R^1 and R^2 together form a $(CH_2)_6$ [ring] chain which can be benzo-fused or phenyl-substituted.

3. (Amended) A compound according to claim 1, wherein [R_1] $\underline{R^1}$ and R^2 together form a $(CH_2)_4$ [ring] chain, which can be benzo-fused or phenyl-substituted.

4. A compound according to claim 1, wherein R^3 represents hydrogen.

5. (Amended) A compound according to claim 1, wherein A is a substituted phenyl group corresponding to formula XIII



XIII

wherein

R^6 to R^{10} each independently denote H, F, Cl, Br, I, CF_3, OH, OR^{11}, OCF_3, SR^{11}, SO_2CH_3, SO_2CF_3, C_{1-6}-alkyl, phenyl, CN, $COOR^{11}$ or NO_2, or R^6 and R^7 or R^7 and R^8 together form an OCH_2O or OCH_2CH_2O [ring] chain, and

R^{11} denotes C_{1-6}-alkyl, phenyl, benzyl or phenethyl,

or a substituted or unsubstituted thiophene radical or furan radical.

6. (Amended) A compound according to claim 1, wherein R^1 and R^2 together form a $(CH_2)_{2-6}$ [ring] chain, which can be benzo-fused or phenyl-substituted, and R^3 denotes hydrogen.

7. (Amended) A compound according to claim 5, wherein R^1 and R^2 together form a [$(CH_2)_4$-ring] $(CH_2)_4$ chain, which can be benzo-fused or phenyl-substituted, and R^3 denotes hydrogen.

8. (Amended) A compound according to claim 5, wherein R^1 and R^2 together form a [$(CH_2)_4$-ring] $(CH_2)_4$ chain, and R^3 denotes hydrogen.

9. (Amended) A compound according to claim 1, [characterized in] wherein R^1 and R^2 together form a $(CH_2)_4$ [ring] chain, A represents a substituted or unsubstituted thiophene radical, and R^3 represents hydrogen.

10. (Amended) A [compounds] compound according to claim 1, wherein R^1 and R^2 together form a $(CH_2)_4$ [ring] chain, A represents a substituted or unsubstituted furan radical, and R^3 represents hydrogen.

11. (Amended) A [compounds] compound according to claim 1, wherein X represents a substituted benzyl group of formula XI.

12. (Amended) A [compounds] compound according to claim 1, wherein said compound is selected from the group consisting of:

dimethyl-{[2-(2-methylbenzyloxy)cyclohexyl]phenylmethyl}-amine and the corresponding hydrochloride;

[2-(dimethylaminophenylmethyl)cyclohexyl]4-trifluoro-methylbenzoate and the corresponding hydrochloride;

[2-(dimethylaminophenylmethyl)cyclohexyl]4-methoxybenzoate and the corresponding hydrochloride;

{[2-(2-chlorobenzyloxy)cyclohexyl]-(2-chlorophenyl)-methyl}dimethylamine and the corresponding hydrochloride;

{[2-(3-fluorobenzyloxy)cyclohexyl]phenylmethyl}-dimethylamine and the corresponding hydrochloride, and

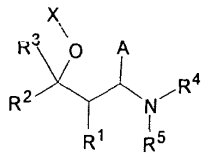
{[2-(4-fluorobenzyloxy)cyclohexyl]phenylmethyl}-dimethylamine and the corresponding hydrochloride.

13. A pharmaceutical composition comprising at least one compound according to claim 1, and a pharmaceutical carrier or adjuvant.

14. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a mixture of enantiomers of a compound according to claim 1, wherein said enantiomers are present in unequal molar amounts.

15. A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 14, wherein one enantiomer comprises between 5 and 45 wt. % of the enantiomer mixture and the other enantiomer comprises between 55 and 95 wt. % of the enantiomer mixture.

16. (Amended) A process for preparing a [compound] 3-Amino-3-arylpropan-1-ol compound corresponding to formula I



I

wherein

R^1 and R^2 each independently [denote] <u>denotes</u> C_{1-6}-alkyl, or R^1 and R^2 together form a $(CH_2)_{2-6}$ [ring] <u>chain</u>, which can also be benzo-fused or phenyl-substituted;

R^3 denotes H or methyl;

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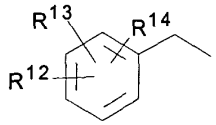
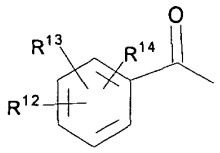
A denotes a substituted or unsubstituted aryl radical, which optionally contains heteroatoms in the ring system;

X denotes a substituted benzyl group corresponding to formula XI



XI

or a substituted benzoyl group corresponding to formula XII



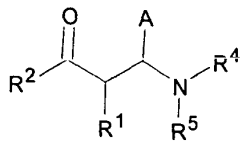
XII

wherein

R^{12} to R^{14} each independently [denote] <u>denotes</u> H, F, Cl, Br, CHF_2, CF_3, [OR^{11}, SR^{11}] <u>OR^{15}, SR^{15}</u>, OCF_3, SO_2CH_3, SO_2CF_3, C_{1-6}-alkyl, phenyl, CN, [$COOR^{11}$] <u>$COOR^{15}$</u> or NO_2, where

[R^{11}] <u>R^{15}</u> denotes H, C_{1-6}-alkyl, phenyl, benzyl or phenethyl;

said process comprising reacting a Mannich base corresponding to formula II



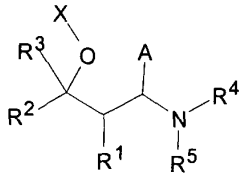
II

wherein R^1 to R^5 and A have the meanings given above,

with a Grignard compound of formula $(H_3C)Y$, wherein Y denotes MgCl, MgBr or MgI, or MeLi, or

with a reducing agent,

to give rise to an alcohol corresponding to formula Id



Id

wherein R^1 to R^5 and A have the meanings given above; and

then reacting said alcohol of formula Id with HalX, wherein Hal is a halogen selected from the group consisting of F, Cl, Br and I, and X has the meaning given above in the presence of an inorganic or organic base at a temperature in the range from 0° to 150°C; or

then condensing said alcohol of formula Id with XOH at a temperature in the range from 0° to 150°C;

to obtain said compound of formula I.

17. A method according to claim 16, wherein said reducing agent is selected from the group consisting of sodium borohydride, sodium cyanoborohydride, lithium aluminium hydride, diisobutylaluminium hydride, and complex analogues thereof.

18. A method of alleviating pain in a mammal comprising administering to said mammal an effective pain alleviating amount of a compound according to claim 1.

19. A method according to claim 18, wherein said pain is neuropathic pain.

20. A method according to claim 18, wherein said pain is chronic pain.

21. A method of local anaesthesia comprising administering an effective local anaesthesia inducing amount of a compound according to claim 1.

22. A method of treating arrhythmia in a mammal comprising administering to said mammal an effective antiarrhythmic amount of a compound according to claim 1.

23. A method of antiemetic treatment comprising administering an effective antiemetic amount of a compound according to claim 1.

24. A method of nootropic (neurotropic) treatment comprising administering an effective nootropic (neurotropic) amount of a compound according to claim 1.

25. A method of treating cardiovascular disease in a mammal comprising administering to said mammal an effective cardiovascular disease alleviating amount of a compound according to claim 1.

26. A method of treating urinary incontinence in a mammal comprising administering to said mammal an effective urinary incontinence alleviating amount of a compound according to claim 1.

27. A method of treating diarrhea in a mammal comprising administering to said mammal an effective diarrhea inhibiting amount of a compound according to claim 1.

28. A method of treating pruritus comprising administering an effective pruritus alleviating amount of a compound according to claim 1.

29. A method of treating alcohol dependency in a mammal comprising administering to said mammal an effective alcohol dependency alleviating amount of a compound according to claim 1.

30. A method of treating drug dependency in a mammal comprising administering to said mammal an effective drug dependency alleviating amount of a compound according to claim 1.

31. A method of treating medicament dependency in a mammal comprising administering to said mammal an effective medicament dependency alleviating amount of a compound according to claim 1.

32. A method of treating inflammation comprising administering an effective inflammation inhibiting amount of a compound according to claim 1.